

Publication Summary



Acute Hospital Activity And NHS Beds Information



Year ending 31 March 2012

Quarter ending June 2012

Publication date – 25 September 2012

About this Release

This release contains information on annual and quarterly acute hospital activity within NHS Scotland. This release includes detailed annual information on inpatient, day case and outpatient activity, hospital diagnoses, surgical procedures and operations, emergency hospital admissions and childhood hospital admissions for the year ending March 2012. Summary activity and bed statistics up to quarter ending June 2012 are also included.

Key Points

- There were 4,700,000 outpatient attendances at consultant clinics in 2011/12. This is an increase of 5% from 4,471,000 in 2007/08. New outpatient attendances have increased by around 9% from 1,378,000 in 2007/08 to 1,497,000 in 2011/12.
- The return to new ratio for outpatient attendances has reduced steadily over the last ten years from 2.4 return outpatients seen for each new outpatient in 2002/03 to 2.1 in 2011/12. Simultaneously, percentage Did Not Attend (DNA) rates have fallen from 12.0% in 2002/03 to 10.3% in 2011/12.
- The total number of hospital discharge episodes from acute specialties in 2011/12 was 1,430,000. Over the last ten years, acute discharges have increased by an average 2.1% year on year from 1,186,000 in 2002/03. The rate of increase has slowed in the last three years to around 0.7% per annum.
- In 2011/12 there were around 541,000 non-routine (emergency) inpatient discharges an increase of around 13% over the last ten years from 477,000 in 2002/03.
- The total number of hospital discharge episodes for children aged 14 years and under was around 100,000 in 2011/12. Over the last five years, total discharges have decreased by 4.7% from 105,000 in 2007/08.

- Neoplasms (including cancer) was the most common main diagnosis for patients discharged from hospital in 2011/12, accounting for 13.8% of all main diagnoses. This figure has remained at approximately 14% for the last five financial years.
- The average number of available staffed beds in acute specialties was recorded as 16,500 in the financial year 2011/12. This is a reduction of 7.8% from 17,900 beds in 2002/03. The mean stay per inpatient bed for acute specialties has decreased from 6.5 days in the year ending March 2003 to 5.3 days in year ending March 2012. 84% of all main procedures (excluding imaging, injections, infusions, x-ray) were performed during elective inpatient or day case admissions in 2011/12. Of these, 81.1% were performed as same day surgery, compared to 75.8% in 2007/08.
- A total of 828,000 main procedures (excluding imaging, injections, infusions, x-ray) were recorded on inpatient, day case and outpatient records in NHS Scotland in 2011/12. This is an increase of 9.7% from 755,000 in 2007/08.

Background

Outpatient, inpatient and day case activity data and beds information are collected across NHSScotland and are based on nationally available information routinely drawn from hospital administrative systems across the country. Where possible, any missing or incomplete data has been estimated using the last complete data submission for the relevant NHS Boards. Details of the affected data can be found within the [Full Publication Report](#) and are highlighted within the relevant tables. Data for the latest time periods should therefore be treated as provisional.

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Further Information

Further information can be found in the [Full Publication Report](#) or on the [Acute Hospital Activity](#) pages of the [ISD website](#).

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